A SECOND

LETTER

TO THE

COMMONS and CITIZENS

OF THE

CITY of *DUBLIN.*

BRITISH MUSEUM

DUBLIN:

Printed by JAMES ESDALL, on *Cork-Hill*, 1749.

A Second LETTER TO THE *Commons* and *Citizens*, &c.

AS I muſt ever rejoyce at every Circumſtance, that tends to the Welfare and Honor of MY FRIENDS and FELLOW CITIZENS; I muſt take this Opportunity of congratulating YOU, upon YOUR unexpected, and, indeed, unparallelled ſucceſs, on Friday laſt.

WHEN I found, upon ſpeaking to ſome of my Acquaintance, that YOU, GENTLEMEN of the COMMONS, were, as uſual, but *partially* ſummoned; when I found, in a principal Street in this City, in which ſeveral Brothers live, who are of the *Commons*, that but *ſome* of theſe Brothers had the *Diſgrace* to be ſummoned; for, I muſt ſuppoſe none were called, but ſuch, as were *deemed Vaſſals* enough to do what the *Conclave* of *Cardinals* commanded; I muſt honeſtly confeſs to you, that mine Heart ached for MY BRETHREN, and FELLOW CITIZENS; fearing, from former melancholy Examples, that a *few* would have been unwarily trepanned into the Ruin of the City and the indelible Diſgrace of the *abſent*, as well, as the *attending* Commons.

BUT, when I found You all juſtly alarmed, at the deſtructive Plot; when the *Commons*, *unſummoned*, *unexpected* by the *Rulers*, bravely, nobly, virtuouſly attended, ready to aſſert their *own Honor*, and the *Rights* of their *Conſtituents*; How my Soul exulted, is more eaſily conceived by generous Minds, than by me expreſſed.

SOME may imagine, that thus *idly* convoking and diſmiſſing You, may be an *Inſult* upon the *Commons*. And I believe the *Conclave vainly*, intended it ſuch. But, give me leave to ſhew, it is a greater *Honor*, than ever the *Conclave* paid the *Commons*, ſince, by the *Hell-invented New-Rules*, of *Berkley* and *Eſſex*, and the *Aldermanic New-Rules*, of the *Conclave*; the *Aldermen* got a Hand in *their* Nomination.

TILL now, the *Conclave* did nothing, but *inſult*, and groſsly *affront* You: However freely, however honorably You might have been *choſen*, by the reſpective

ſpective Corporations, You repreſent; being ſelected, or rather, *culled* out of the *double Return*, by the *Conclave*; was only, upon a Preſumption, that You were the *fitteſt*, in the Return, for *their Purpoſes*; that is, that you were the *vaineſt* and *fondeſt* of *City Honors*; the *weakeſt*, and *moſt ſtupid*, and *ſenſeleſs Dolts*; the *moſt pliant*, *paſſive Slaves* and *Sycophants*, the *moſt temporiſing Fools*, and the *moſt daſtardly Fools* and *Cowards*, in the whole Set.

THIS was all the *Rulers* had to truſt to; but, thanks be to DIVINE PROVIDENCE! the *Tyrants* are fallen into the *Pit-falls*, they dug for *others!* And You, MY MOST HONORED FELLOW CITIZENS of the COMMONS, have vindicated *Yourſelves* and your *Conſtituents*, from their *foul Imputations*, and proved Yourſelves *good Subjects*, *good Citizens*, and FAITHFUL REPRESENTATIVES!

NOW, MY FRIENDS, ſee how your *tyrannical Taſk-maſters* honor, revere and dread You! See how AWFUL VIRTUE, in low Station, can diſcountenance *Vice*, in the higheſt! and make the *ſumptuous Banquet* and the *coſtly Purple*, of no Strength, no Security to *Uſurpers!*

THE *mixed Council*, the *motley Committee* of *Cardinals* and *Commons*, or a ſufficient Set for the Purpoſe; for ought we know, a *Sub Committee*, of *Cardinals* only; met and agreed to *Alderman Cuſtom*'s Propoſal. A *Poſt-Aſſembly* was called, for *Form Sake*, to *receive* and *ratify* the Report of the *Committee*; to ſign which, many of the Members were called, upon a few Minutes Notice.

BY this Time the *honeſt*, the *unexpected*, the *dreaded* Faces of the FREE COMMONS appeared, in ſuch Numbers, as to *quaſh* the moſt ſanguine Hopes of the *Conclave*. They viewed You. They trembled. They retired. You ſaw them no more. They ſent you *nothing* to do: For, they found you were qualified to do *nothing* —— for their Purpoſe.

WHAT became of your *Sheriffs?* ——*Sheriffs* alas! You have not. *One* of them has got into the *Conclave*, and, *Ambe-dexter*, would now, *head*, and *lord it over*, the *Commons*, in a double Capacity; both as a *Sheriff*, and as an *Alderman*! This is not the only Inſtance, in which the *Conclave* break through the very Powers, which ſupport their *inſatiable Tyranny*, the *New Rules*: *Theſe* poſitively prohibit any *Alderman*'s ſitting with

the *Commons*; Yet, the *Aldermen*, finding You are not to be actuated by their *Weight*, or *Influence* in the *next Room*, would ſend *one* of their *goodly Corps*, to be not only a *Spy*, but a *Ruler* over You, in *your Room!*

You Spoiled this *Gentleman's* Sport: For, *he* finds You will not, You can not, admit *him* to ſit among You, without confeſſing the Truth, which is not always reckoned covenient; *that he is not an Alderman*; upon which, HE and his *new, tho' late abuſed, Brethren* dread, You will ELECT and SUPPORT ONE LEGAL ALDERMAN in your City.

WHEN your *Enemies* are ſhewn You, You may eaſily find out your Friends. Among *theſe*, you muſt ever remember with due *Reſpect* and *Gratitude*, that *Sheriff*, that worthy Citizen, that good Man, who diſdained the Offers of the *Purple*, while he was one of the PRESIDENTS of the *Commons*.

AND here, I can not help congratulating You, upon the public Declaration of one of your *Sheriffs elect*; who, with juſt Indignation, reſented his being called to ſign *Alderman Toll's* Report, upon a ſhort warning; and ſaid, *He never would Sign any Paper of ſuch Conſequence, under a Month's Conſideration.*--More Diſappointment to your *Inſlaver's*!--If this Spirit riſes but a little higher, *Tyranny* is not far from the Agonies of Death. Some late *Struggles* of the *Faction* would induce one to think them the laſt *Convulſions* and *Howlings* of *Dogs* diſſected alive.--Do you MY FRIENDS, like TRUE PHYSICIANS to your City, make the proper Uſe of the *Diſſection*; and when you have learned the *Anatomy*, or Structure of this *Monſter*, and conſidered the manner of its *Muſhroom-like* Generation among you; prevent the *beggetting*, or raiſing ſuch *an other*.

BY your careful attendance, on *Friday* laſt; by the generous Reſolution You have ſhewn, to oppoſe all *ſiniſter Jobs*; by the firm Determination You manifeſted to diſcharge the Duty of good *Citizens* and righteous *Commons*; in aſſerting and vindicating the *Honor* and *Intereſt*, the *Rights* and *Liberties* of your *Conſtituents* and *Selves*; You have conferred a moſt laſting Obligation on the Public, in general. You have ſhewn your *Inſlavers*, that You are not for *their Purpoſes*;

You

You have shewn your *Constituents*, that You are *faithfull*, and *zealous* in the discharge of the Trust in you reposed. You have prevented some poor, unfortunate Families being set a Drift, by making a *Monopoly* of the *Tolls* and *Customs*; and the City from being *Spoiled* of those Revenues.

The last Consideration presents to my View, another of the manifold, destructive Abuses and Errors, in the present Government of the City, which is, partly, in your Power to rectify.

Every sensible Man must confess, that the surest and best Means of making Officers and Servants just to their Employers, or Masters, are giving them reasonable Sallaries, or Wages. And that, on the contrary, pinching Penury, in these Instances, makes many a Man, meanly stoop to the *venial Frauds*, which pass currently, under the fashionable Denomination of *Perquisites*; who would scorn them, had he sufficient Subsistence without them.

Notwithstanding this, all the Officers and Servants of this City are either *stinted* to the smallest Allowance, or, actually *farm* their Employments.

These *Toll-gatherers*, or *Custom collectors*, for Example, are each allowed, as I am informed, but *twenty Pounds* a Year, for attending in their Station, every Day, from *three* of the Clock in the Morning, till *twelve* at Night, besides keeping a Servant, or Assistant. The very *Officers-at-Mace*, *rent* their Places. So does the *City Marshal*. And the most *considerable Officer* of the City has a *Sallary*, but of *thirty Shillings* a Year; and pays a *Rent* of *one hundred Pounds* a Year, for an Office, under a *Stair Case*, fit only, for a *Coal-hole*, or a *Bog-house*!—Are not these strong Temptations to Dishonesty?——If you would make *good Servants*, or *faithfull Officers*, you must *pay* them well; and then, you may *punish* them well, when they transgress.

Now, my Brethren, the *Panic* You struck into the *Cardinals*, last Friday, has raised the public hopes, that You will be the happy Instruments of the *Downfall* of their intollerable *Tyranny*. You certainly, have it in your Power. How great must then, be your condemnation

Condemnation, if you let ſlip the Opportunity! You have it in your Option to ſerve your KING and COUNTRY, YOUR CITY and YOUR-SELVES; and by ſo doing, to manifeſt to the World, that You are LOYAL SUBJECTS, ZEALOUS PATRIOTS, VIRTUOUS CITIZENS and RIGHTEOUS MEN; Or, by neglecting theſe great and indiſpenſable Duties, to prove, that You are the very *falſe*, *fawn-hearted*, *ſordid Slaves*, and *wretched Reprobates*, by which you become intituled to the Favor of the *Cardinals*, only. ——— You cannot one moment heſitate in the Choice!

You muſt be convoked next *Quarter-Aſſembly*. It is unavoidable. Conſider your Duty! conſider what is juſtly expected at your Hands!--I need ſay no more. Reſolution and Unanimity is all that is neceſſary to gain your virtuous Ends.---Can theſe be wanting upon ſo important, ſo critical an Occaſion?——— I hope it is not to be imagined!

WHEN every Kind of *Abuſe*, *Inſolence* and *Oppreſſion* is freely dealed to the *Citizens*, by the *Cardinals*, and countenanced by *Men in Power*, is it not Time for the Citizens to be upon their Guard?——Is it not notorious, that a Citizen is not to hope for *Mercy*, nay, for common *Juſtice* from an *Alderman*?——— Has not *one* of thoſe *worſhipful Fathers* of our City, even, the youngeſt of the *Callow Brood*, before he had yet, got out of his *Pin-feathers*, or thrown off his *Leading-ſtring*; publicly offered the higheſt Inſult to a Citizen; and yet, *refuſed* him Satisfaction; for the modern *gentile* Reaſon; becauſe, the Citizen was *no Gentleman*? ——— Did not *this ſuckling Alderman complane* to the *chief Magiſtrate*? ——— Was not the *only Sherif* in the City ſent to take *the Citizen* in *Arreſt*? ——— Was not *the Citizen*, in his own Defence and Vindication, conſtrained to give *Examinations* againſt *the Alderman*?--And did not the JUSTICES of the *King's Bench*, *judge it inexpedient* to ſuffer the Bill to be tried *in that Court*, where the Citizen was *bound* to proſecute? ——Thoſe, whom this will not alarm, are Senſeleſs and Stupid, paſſed Conception, paſſed Remedy!

I BEG Leave to remind You of one Inſult more, which I find offered You by the *Cardinals*.

THESE *reverend Sages*, though they muſt all be

ſenſible,

ſenſible, that there lives not a Wretch, in our City, who is ignorant of the *Inſolence*, the *Oppreſſion*, the *Cruelty*, the *Uſurpation*, the *Tyranny* of the *Cardinals*; ſtill clame the ſame Titule to *Honor* and *Reſpect* from the Citizens, to which ALDERMEN were intituled, when *free Citizens*, upon *juſt Principles*, were by the *fair*, *unbiaſſed Voices* of the approving Multitude, CHOSEN into that, *once honorable and great*, Office. And, what is yet, more aſtoniſhing! Theſe *low*, *creeping*, *cringing Creatures* of *Faction*, demand a *Sovereign Authority* over, and an high *Preeminance* to, the *abuſed*, the *inſlaved Citizens*, unknown to our Conſtitution! They, in Effect, clame a ſort of *hereditary Right* to Succede to all the great Offices, the Citizens can confer! as well, as thoſe, the *Uſurpers* have wreſted out of their Hands!

BUT, their *Artifice* is as remarkable, as their *Aſſurance*, upon Occaſion of the preſent Vacancies in Parlement.

THEY now ſee the fatal Neceſſity, they are under, of getting *one* of their own *Junto* choſen into Parlement. And, that they may be ſure of ſucceding, like ſome *politic Families* in *Rebellion*; they try both *Extremes* of their *Faction*.

THE *Principles*, and *Manner* of *acting*, of the *firſt* are pretty well known. But, the *ſecond* runs upon another *ſcent*. He clames his *principal Titule*, from the *Merits* of his Father. He *Modeſtly* clames none other; except the *Favor* of the *Cardinals*, into whoſe dark, *Monday-Book Myſteries*, it is ſaid, he has been lately initiated, by a *Faction*, with whom his RIGHTEOUS FATHER would ſcorn to *herd!*

HERE you ſee *Diamond* cuts *Diamond!* Nothing made greater Noiſe in Town, nothing was more ſeverely cenſured, than making public mention of the Conduct of the Father of *one* of our *Candidates*; yet, here *one Alderman* ſhews the Contraſt, in the ſtrongeſt Colors, againſt *another!* If *this Gentleman* be intituled to any *Grace*, or *Favor*, on Account of the *Merits* of *his Father*; ſure *the other* is liable to the utmoſt *diſgrace* and *diſfavor*, for the matchleſs *demerits* of his!

THESE are *pretty Trifles* to divert and amuſe *Fools*; not *ſolid Arguments* for FREE CITIZENS, and *ſenſible*

Men,

Men, to found their *Judgments*, and their CHOICE upon.

THE Truth is, the *one* is intituled to much of the Reſpect and grateful Regard, due to his Father; *provided* the Tenor of his Life and Actions prove, he has the *like Spirit*, *the like Capacity*, and is *actuated* by the *ſame Principles* ---not otherwiſe.--- And the other is chargeable with the *Vices*, or *Tranſgreſſions* of his Father, only ſo far, as he ſhews the *like Spirit* and *evil Tendency*, and the *ſame ſlaviſh Principles*, that his *Predeceſſor* exerted,--no farther. So that, however deep *one* of theſe *learned Gentleman* cuts the *other*, and however highly he complements *himſelf*, with the *Merits* of his *dead Father*, to which all his Brothers have an *equal*, if not a *prior right*, to him; You are to conſider *the Man* alone, abſtracted from all *outward* Advantages, or Diſadvantages. And till a *Gentleman* can prove to You, that he inherits the *Spirit* of *his Father*, or that he underſtands, ſomething more than *Aldermanic Sorcery*, enough to call from *their Graves* the much *wanted*, *deceaſed* PATRIOTS, to aſſiſt You in ſupporting the ſinking, the expiring Cauſe of LIBERTY and YOUR COUNTRY; you can not conſiſtently with *Juſtice*, *right Reaſon*, or the Duty of *good Subjects*, and FREE CITIZENS pay any Regard to his vain Demand, or Declamation, or the more vain Clame of an *hereditary Titule* to a Seat in Parlement.

THAT JUSTICE the GUARDIAN ANGEL of our Iſle, and LIBERTY the BRIGHT GENIUS of *our civil Conſtitution*, may direct YOU, in your CHOICE of Repreſentatives for your City, upon this *critical Emergency*, is the moſt fervent Prayer of,

MY MOST HONORED AND TRULY BELOVED BRETHREN
and
FELLOW-CITIZENS,
Your moſt faithful
and
moſt devoted Friend and
Servant

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DUBLIN, *May* 13*th* 1749.

C. Lucas.